**William F. Adler** Executive Director Federal Regulatory Relations 1275 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 400 Washington, D.C. 20004 (202) 383-6435

January 13, 1993

PACIFIC TELESIS.

Group-Washington

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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Donna R. Searcy Secretary Federal Communications Commission Mail Stop 1170 1919 M Street, NW - Room 222 Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Searcy:

Re: ET Docket No. 92-9

Allian F. adler

On behalf of Pacific Telesis Group, please find enclosed an original and five copies of its "Comments on Third Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" in the above proceeding.

Please stamp and return the provided copy to confirm your receipt. Please contact me should you have any questions or require additional information concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

**Enclosures** 

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## Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of	)		
	)		
Redevelopment of Spectrum to	)	ET Docket No.	92-9
Encourage Innovation in the	)		
Use of New Telecommunications	)	RM-7981	
Technologies	)	RM-8004	

## COMMENTS OF PACIFIC TELESIS GROUP ON THE FIRST REPORT AND ORDER AND THIRD NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

The Commission has requested comment on several issues in its First Report and Order and Third Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, released October 16, 1992. Pacific Telesis Group will provide comments only on the issue of the transition period for existing microwave users, discussed in Paragraphs 27-29. Telesis recommends that no transition period be adopted.

A transition period is unnecessary and will only lead to delay in clearing the spectrum bands for use by emerging wireless technologies. Existing users should be required to move as soon as the new technology licensee has contacted them and made the appropriate arrangements for relocation. The rights of the existing microwave users and the vital services they provide will be fully protected by the provision that all relocation expenses be covered by the new licensees.

Telesis envisions the process working as follows: The new licensee will first identify one or more existing microwave

users that must be moved from the spectrum assigned to the new licensee (either because clear spectrum is needed before service can be begun, or because demand is increasing so rapidly that sharing is no longer possible). The new licensee will then be responsible for contacting the existing users and beginning discussing relocation. Sometimes (e.g., in the case of short links) it may be feasible to move the existing user to another medium, such as fiber optic cable. In other circumstances, the higher frequencies designated by the Commission for relocation may be appropriate. After the parties reach agreement, the design and engineering work can begin, sites can be selected, equipment purchased, and the relocation can take place. A precise timetable is impossible to predict because circumstances will vary. All relocation expenses should be covered, whether the work is done by the staff of the existing user, the new licensee, or a third party.

In cases where the parties cannot reach agreement, Telesis suggests the use of Alternative Dispute Resolution, with submission of the dispute to the Commission only as a last resort.

Telesis recognizes that a different approach will be needed for the spectrum reserved for unlicensed users. Again, however, a transition period is not needed. The existing users will need to move before the unlicensed use begins, and this should be done as quickly as possible. Telesis supports

industry efforts to solve the problem of how the existing users will be compensated for the relocation expenses.

In some parts of the country, especially rural areas, there may be so little demand for new services that existing users will never need to move. In other areas, relocation may not be necessary for some time. In urban areas, however, Telesis believes that sharing will be difficult, and will be highly unlikely if the spectrum awards are 25 MHz or less. For this reason, any specific timetable for transition will be inappropriate in some parts of the country. Telesis believes that its position is preferable, because it leaves the time of relocation up to the parties themselves.

Respectfully submitted,

PACIFIC TELESIS GROUP

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Dated: January 13, 1993